

Program Outline — Sparks 2022

What is Sparks?

Sparks is a Playlab Theatre and QPAC partnership program that supports First Nations writers taking their first steps into playwriting. Under the guidance of industry practitioners, participants will be led through a range of activities and workshops designed to stimulate ideas, introduce elements of craft, and provide strategies for undertaking a new script idea.

This is a program for First Nations writers, including those in the very beginnings of their writing career with a concept that they would like to explore.

To be eligible applicants must:

- Be of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent
- Have a play concept they would like to develop

To apply to be part of Sparks simply fill out the form at: <https://playlabtheatre.com.au/for-artists/sparks/>

- Name, contact information and a short bio
- A short statement about why you would like to be part of the program (Approx 100 words)
- A short statement about your play concept (Approx 100 words)

Program Schedule

28/02/22 - 04/03/22: Inspire. Intensive (Clancestry)

During Clancestry 2022 Sparks participants will be taken through workshops designed to explore approaches to playwriting, activating creativity and strategies that can be implemented to get the most out of the program. During Clancestry, participants will also receive tickets to shows, have conversations with cultural leaders, and partake in networking opportunities.

31/03/22: Imagine. Workshop: Central Ideas

This workshop will focus on participants beginning to articulate the core elements of their idea. It will give them the tools in order to create a synopsis that can be used for preparation to undertake their draft.

14/04/22: Imagine. Workshop: Character

This workshop will focus on character building using practical activities that can be taken out of the workshop and applied directly to the creation of the participants' ideas.

05/05/22: Imagine. Workshop: Structure and Beat Sheet

This workshop explore structure and will prepare the participants to begin breaking their story up into beats and outlining them in a Beat Sheet.

19/05/22: Imagine. Workshop: Script Writing Practicalities

This workshop will go over practical writing tips preparing participants to begin undertaking their drafts.

16/06/22: Imagine. Speaker Event

This event will bring in established First Nations theatre-makers and playwrights in order to discuss their careers, and their approaches to creating new work.

27/06/22 - 30/06/22: Imagine. Writing Retreat

Over four days, participants will stay on country in order to spend dedicated time working on their drafts.

Week of 22/07/22: Ignite. Dramaturgical Check-in 1

One-on-One sessions with a dramaturg to develop their script.

Week of 25/07/22: Ignite. Dramaturgical Check-in 2

One-on-One sessions with a dramaturg to develop their script.

08/08/22: Ignite. Script Extracts Due

Participants are to submit a 10-minute extract of their script.

18/08/22 - 19/08/22: Ignite. Development and Public Reading with Actors

Each 10-minute extract will undergo a development with Actors prior to a public reading.

(All dates are subject to change and Locations to be determined)